

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 ACDA-07 /103 W  
-----191632Z 009755 /53

P 191542Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5455  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY RABAT RABAT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1048

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, ZA, CG, AO, MOPS  
SUBJ: ALLEGED BOMBING OF ZAMBIAN VILLAGES BY ZAIRE

REF: (A) LUSAKA 991, (B) LUSAKA 1001, (C) LUSAKA 1030

DCM AT ZAIRIAN EMBASSY HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH INFO WHICH HELPS TO EXPLAIN CONFUSION SURROUNDING ZAIRIAN REACTION TO ZAMBIAN COMPLAINTS ABOUT BOMBING INCIDENT. ZAIRIAN DCM EXPLAINED THAT LENGEMA CAME TO LUSAKA APRIL 13 (REFTEL A) WITH NO INSTRUCTIONS RE THE BOMBING INCIDENT. RATHER, HE HAD COME TO COMPLAIN ABOUT REPORTS THAT THE KATANGESE WERE USING ZAMBIAN TERRITORY AS A STAGING AREA. ON HIS ARRIVAL HE WAS BRIEFED BY THE ZAIRIAN EMBASSY ABOUT THE BOMBINGS. WHEN QUESTIONED BY KAUNDA ABOUT THE INCIDENT, LENGEMA, ACTING WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, TOLD KAUNDA THAT ZAIRE WOULD CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, AND, IF THE INCIDENT HAD TAKEN PLACE, PAY COMPENSATION. LENGEMA THEN RETURNED TO INSHASA BUT DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO MEET WITH MOBUTU BEFORE MOBUTU BLAMED THE RUSSIANS FOR THE BOMBING (REFTEL B). FOLLOWING MOBUTU'S STATEMENT, ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR WAS CALLED IN AND  
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ASKED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER IF LENGEMA HAD PROMISED INVESTIGATION FOLLOWED BY REPARATIONS ON HIS OWN OR IF HE HAD SPOKEN FOR MOBUTU. ZAIRIAN EMBASSY THEN ASKED KINSHASA FOR CLARIFICATION AND RECEIVED ASSURANCES, SUBSEQUENTLY PASSED TO THE ZAMBIANS, THAT MOBUTU STOOD BEHIND LENGEMA'S PROMISE (REFTEL C).

COMMENT:HWE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE ZAMBIANS WOULD  
PREFER TO PLAY THE BOMBINGS DOWN AND THAT IF SOME  
RECOGNITION OF CULPABILITY AND TOKEN OFFER OF COMPENSATION  
IS MADE THEY WILL BE INCLINED TO FORGET THE INCIDENT.  
LOW

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOMBING, ALLEGATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 19-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LUSAKA01048  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770135-1213  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 4debb4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 LUSAKA 991, 77 LUSAKA 1001, 77 LUSAKA 1030  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2765734  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALLEGED BOMBING OF ZAMBIAN VILLAGES BY ZAIRE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MOPS, ZA, CG, AO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009